

COLUMBIA.

Friday Morning, Oct. 13, 1865.

The State Records.

In our issue of Tuesday, we published an extract from the correspondence of the Charleston Courier, in relation to the destruction of the State records. We are pleased, to day, to have the pleasure of correcting the error into which the correspondent of our cotemporary has fallen. It will be seen from the communication of W. R. Hunt, Esq., Secretary of State, that, by his individual exertions and industry, involving heavy personal sacrifices, he not only saved the papers of his own office, but those of the corresponding offices of Charleston, beside the District records of some of the other Districts in the lower part of the State.

Mr. Hunt gives a full statement, and it is but justice to him to say that he merits the thanks of the people and of the State authorities for his laborious exertions in this respect. There is no portion of the State but which is more or less interested in the preservation of these records, and whilst many of the papers of some of the District offices have been destroyed, those of the office of Surveyor-General having been saved, may, in some degree, mitigate the loss and materially aid in renewing many of them.

Mr. Hunt has been, for many years, connected with the offices alluded to, and we commend to the consideration of the Legislature in what way that body can compensate him for his fidelity and this last, most important and valuable service he has rendered to the State. Our State exchanges will do well to correct the error of the correspondent of the Courier.

Outrage.

We regret exceedingly, under our present condition and circumstances, that we should have to record any violations of law, impeding the efforts now being made to restore peace and harmony to the country.

We are authoritatively informed that three soldiers of the 1st Maine Battalion, while on duty at Brown's Ferry, in Anderson District, were murdered by being shot through the head and thrown into the river. This occurred on last Sunday evening. The bodies, it is stated, were removed the next morning and taken to Anderson Court House. These men were guarding some property. Two citizens of the District have been arrested on suspicion of having been concerned in the outrage.

We deplore such outrages as this, and trust that there may be some explanation of the affair, and, above all, warn and admonish our fellow-citizens that such atrocities as this alleged to have been committed are not only criminal and wrong, but derogatory to the State character and reputation of the people of South Carolina. We yet hope to learn that this atrocity was perpetrated by individuals having neither the countenance or support of their immediate community.

POLITICAL CALCULATIONS.—A Washington despatch to the Cincinnati Gazette says that prominent Democratic politicians, who were engaged in figuring upon the next Congress, say that there will be a majority of ten in favor of admitting the Southern members who come prepared to take the test oath.

SOUTHERN TRADE WITH THE WEST. The St. Louis Price Current says: St. Louis has for some time been sending large shipments of dry goods, boots and shoes, as well as bagging, rope, provisions and produce to the South, and the merchants of Louisville are enjoying more Southern trade with the interior of the Southern country than their limited facilities of transportation can accommodate.

The State Records.

SECRETARY OF STATE'S OFFICE,
COLUMBIA, S. C., Oct. 12, 1865.

EDITORS PHOENIX: In your issue of the 10th instant, I notice an extract from the Charleston Courier, in which one of its correspondents, in speaking of the destruction of State and District records, by the Federal troops, states that "the State records and other papers of importance are gone forever."

I do not know from what source he has drawn his information, nor do I doubt the sincerity of his assertion, but as every citizen of the State is interested more or less in the records of this office, and those of the Surveyor-General, I deem it my duty to relieve the anxiety which may arise, by correcting a mistake into which he has fallen. The records of the Secretary of State, and Surveyor-General, are safe. I have good reason to know something of these records, from painful experience in saving them.

My long connection with these offices had taught me the inestimable value of their records to the State, and I thought of the enormous job of packing so large a number of books and papers, and getting them off in time to save them. With the short notice given, I knew if I saved them I must sacrifice every thing I owned; this, sooner than see the State lose that which could not be replaced, I determined to do, and by laying aside my private interest, devoting my whole time to the service of the State, working day and night, using my own wagon and team, and the servants of a friend, and leaving the contents of my own house, and the house itself to the torch of the enemy, succeeded in packing and saving every record and paper of value, not only of the two offices of Secretary of State and Surveyor-General, located at Columbia, but also of the corresponding offices heretofore located in Charleston, but two years previously removed to this place and put under my charge.

While on this subject, I will mention, for the benefit of those interested, that I also saved the records of the Commissioner in Equity, Clerk of Court, and Ordinary of Barnwell District. Those of the two last offices, I happened to discover in the depot whilst loading my own, and knowing they would be burnt, if not removed by some one, I had them put into my car, and took them off safe. I also saved one box of the Commissioner in Equity of Beaufort, and those of the Commissioner in Equity of Charleston, which were in my office at the time. WM. R. HUNT, Secretary of State S. C.

BREAKING UP.—The Republican party is breaking up in all the States. Judge Martin Grover's letter shows how large and serious is the defection in this State; and Senator Doolittle has just published a letter which practically puts him in a position to affiliate in time with the Democracy of the North-west. He says:

"1. That the policy of Mr. Lincoln and Mr. Johnston, of leaving that to be determined by those States for themselves, is the only just and wise policy.
"2. That it is in accordance with the letter and spirit of the Constitution.
"4. That it is almost inconceivable that any Federal Administration should attempt to enforce universal negro suffrage in States where, for two hundred years, the negroes have been degraded by slavery, when, at the same time, nearly two-thirds of the free States deny suffrage to persons of the same race, who have been educated as freemen, among freemen, with the thoughts, habits and responsibilities of freemen."

BUSINESS WITH THE NORTH.—A Northern paper says:

It is estimated that fifty per centum of the Southern indebtedness of 1860-61 will be paid, and that one-third of the present business of New York is Southern trade. Boston is, also, beginning to feel the benefit of the presence of Southern purchasers, and this benefit will be increased as all customers ascertain that the unforgiving and proscriptive feelings expressed toward them by Sumner, Butler & Co. are not entertained by our merchants, who receive them as cordially as ever they did, and extend to them as much confidence and as great advantages.

Fire-arms from England.

An interesting paper, relative to the small arms trade of Birmingham, was read a few days ago before the British Association. We extract the following:

"From the returns I have in my possession, I have drawn out as accurately as I possibly can, the number of arms manufactured in Birmingham and elsewhere, for the Americans, during the last four years. The first shot was fired at Fort Sumter, on the 12th of April, 1861. On the 9th of May following, five purchasers of arms, some commissioned by different Northern States, others private speculators, arrived in Birmingham. Each had so well kept secret the object of his mission, that when they found themselves all engaged in Birmingham on the same errand, they suspected each other of purchasing for the enemy, and their anxiety was increased accordingly to secure the few thousand arms that were then in store in Birmingham. The few in hand were at once shipped off, and large orders were at once given, which continued to occupy the trade at their full power, with one interval, till March, 1863. The interval I allude to was on the occurrence of the Trent affair, in November, 1861, which led to an embargo being laid on the export of arms, on the 4th of December, 1861. This embargo was removed early in 1862. On the removal of the embargo, one steamer took out from Southampton no less than about 40,000 rifles to New York. The trade worked at its full power, straining every nerve, till (I find by the return from the Birmingham Proof House) that in one month—the month of October, 1863—60,343 rifle barrels were proved, being very few short of 2,000 per day from Birmingham alone, a number altogether unprecedented in the history of the trade. At that time, the supplies produced in America, at the Springfield Armory and elsewhere, began to tell upon the demand. We still find, however, that the numbers were 40,000 to 50,000 per month, till March, 1863. They then fell to 14,000 per month, till, in September, 1863, the Northern demand ceased altogether. Without notice, the orders were suspended, and guns that had been sent over were even returned to this country. The United States Government found, at that time, that their factories were equal to supply the whole demand. From Proof House returns, I obtain the following numbers, showing the extent of the supply of arms from this country to America:

Birmingham supplied.....	632,534
London.....	344,892

Making a total number of Enfield rifles sent to America of.....1,037,346

INTERESTING TESTIMONY IN THE CASE OF WIRZ.—George W. Reynolds, who testified in the Wirz trial, on Wednesday, made some curious and interesting statements. The following is a summary of his evidence:

"He was taken prisoner while a spy in the national service. Andersonville stockade was much like a compact city. There were 33,000 prisoners; the pen was laid in streets, and most of the vocations known to urban life were carried on within it. There were about 1,000 regular dealers, including bankers, brokers, provision merchants, bakers, tailors, shoemakers, barbers, jewellers, soap jobbers, gamblers, &c., who kept open shops and offices, and did a thriving business. At these establishments could be bought, if one had the money, all the necessaries and many of the luxuries of life. The witness himself kept a shop and drove a heavy trade. He said that there were about half a million dollars in greenbacks in the prison. The prisoners had also among themselves regular judicial and police organizations, and at one time five disorderly characters among them, who had been found guilty by a jury of their fellow captives, were hung. He himself acted as a magistrate. He told many other wonderful things of a similar character relative to the interior life of the prison. He had known suffering among the men from exposure, but could not say that he had witnessed it from hunger."

MURDER BY A BROTHER.—A TERRIBLE CRIME.—Leonard McCandless, a merchant of Fayette County, Pennsylvania, who was quite wealthy, while about to start for Pittsburg to be married, one week ago, took a slice of cake and some lemonade from his brother James, and was immediately taken sick and died in half an hour. There is no doubt of his having been poisoned, and James, after obtaining possession of some of his property, has run away.

North Carolina.

On Tuesday last, the State Convention of North Carolina passed an ordinance making null and void the Ordinance of Secession. The vote was 105 to 9. As a matter of interest we subjoin the document as it passed:

An Ordinance declaring null and void the Ordinance of May 20, 1861.

Be it declared and ordained by the delegates of the good people of the State of North Carolina, in Convention assembled, and it is hereby declared and ordained, That the ordinance of the Convention of the State of North Carolina, ratified on the 21st day of November, 1789, which adopted and ratified the Constitution of the United States, and also all acts and parts of acts of the General Assembly ratifying and adopting amendments to the said Constitution, are now, and at all times since the adoption and ratification thereof have been, in full force and effect, notwithstanding the supposed ordinance of the 20th day of May, 1861, declaring the same to be repealed, rescinded and abrogated, and the said supposed ordinance is now, and at all times hath been, null and void.

THE COMING HAT—A REVOLUTION OVERHEARD.—A recent number of Galvani's Messenger, published in Paris, contains the following extraordinary announcement:

One of the principal hat dealers of Paris has originated a new style of covering for the head, for gentlemen, which promises to supplant the ordinary beaver hat in all fashionable circles. The beaver hat, in fact, has sustained nearly all the possible transmutations of form that art can suggest, and both people and makers have grown weary of it. The new chapeau combines the form of a turban, a shako, and a helmet, advancing considerably beyond the head in front, and sloping down at the back. The materials used are silk, enameled paper prepared by a peculiar process, and a very narrow gilt band. It has a peculiar method of ventilation, and is altogether of a very jaunty and semi-military appearance. We understand that large orders have been received from Baden-Baden, Versailles, and Bordeaux. An invoice was sent to a dealer, in London, who exhibited one for a few days in his shop window, but finally wrote back that it was useless to try to introduce them there until they become thoroughly fashionable in France, as nobody could be found bold enough to be the first to wear such a singular hat. There is no doubt, however, but that in a short time this style will be universally adopted.

The telegraph and other manufacturers of sensational items have been more than once busy with the conversations of Gen. Grant in reference to the expulsion of Maximilian from Mexico. If we are to believe a recent telegram to the associated press, this distinguished but extremely reticent soldier has no concealments with reference to an enforcement of the Monroe doctrine. He is reported to have just stated to a "distinguished Illinoisian" that we must drive Maximilian out at all hazards, and that the work can be done without any material increase of our present army. He is also reported to have declared that this was the fixed policy of the Government, and that it would be developed as soon as Congress meets.

If these statements with reference to declarations of the Lieutenant-General of the army of the United States are true, they possess very great significance. The words of a man like Gen. Grant are not uttered at random. We do not recollect a single instance of an insignificant or idle declaration having been brought home to him. If these newspaper statements about Gen. Grant are true, there can scarcely be a doubt that when Congress meets, the President will, with his characteristic firmness, take a position with reference to the Monroe doctrine which will decide forever the fate of that famous old diplomatic bone of contention.

[Richmond Times.

Hon. D. M. Barringer, former Minister to Spain, who broke his leg and was otherwise seriously injured last Spring by falling into a pit or culvert on the N. C. R. R. while making his way from the depot at Salisbury, we are happy to learn, is so far recovered as to be able to be on the street in Raleigh, the place of his residence.—Wilmington Journal.

It is stated that after the trial of Captain Wirz is ended, there will be an investigation of the conduct of other military prisoners throughout the country.

Local Items.

EMPLOYMENT.—Eight or ten good printers can obtain employment in this office, during the approaching session of the Legislature.

"Cotton Blanks" and permits—indispensable to all persons purchasing or shipping cotton—can be obtained at this office.

CASE.—We wish it distinctly understood that our terms for subscription, advertising and job work are cash. The money must in every case accompany orders, or they will not be attended to. This rule applies to all.

ORDERLY CITY.—The thanks of the people of Columbia are due to the Commandant of the Post, Gen. Richardson, for the effective police from his command which he has distributed through the city. Order and quiet prevail; and although occasional disturbances may occur, they are not of the character that reflect discredit upon the efficiency of the guard.

We are pleased to pay a tribute of commendation to the garrison of Columbia, (the 25th Ohio Volunteers,) for their general good conduct since they took position here. Under Lieut. Col. Haughton, the first Commandant of the Post, as well as under the present Commandant, General Richardson, we are gratified to state that they have performed their duties in an efficient and proper manner. We regard the city of Columbia as being favored in this respect.

COLONEL JOHN T. SLOAN.—The Keowee (Pickens) Courier says the many friends of this gentleman, in that section, will regret to learn that he is on the eve of removing, with his interesting family, to the city of Columbia. Colonel Sloan is a gentleman of fine business qualities, and occupies a very enviable position in the political and social circles of the State. He carries with him to the capital of the State the best wishes of a host of friends for his future welfare in life.

We had previously heard of the contemplated removal of Colonel Sloan to Columbia. We understand that he has recently purchased the fine residence belonging to Mrs. McCord, opposite the South Carolina College. Our citizens, to many of whom the Colonel is well known, will give him a cordial welcome among us.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.—Attention is called to the following advertisements, which are published for the first time this morning:

City Scales.
A. R. Phillips—Auction.
H. Bishop—Valise Stolen.
Boarding—Apply at this office.
Steele's Hat Hall—Hats and Caps.
James G. Gibbs—Declination.
Meeting Palmetto Lodge.

OUTRAGEOUS DISTINCTION.—Boston must be "seen to," she has been playing false to the great idea of the equality of races. When the colored regiment was received on the commons, last Monday, white and colored citizens were not permitted to mingle together on equal terms, but, in addition to the establishment of a line to keep the crowd from the ground occupied by the regiment, which was proper enough, the colored citizens were placed in an enclosure by themselves, hedged in with rope and policemen, while white citizens were kept outside this second line, or in what may be compared to the "third tier" of the theatre. Whether this division signified that the whites were inferior to the blacks, or the blacks to the whites, makes no difference. It was an invidious distinction, in violation of the Massachusetts principles, and if the Commonwealth does not devote an indignant column to the outrage, it will forfeit its claim to out-and-out radicalism.

[Springfield Republican.

AN ESCAPED HUSBAND.—"My wife has gone to visit her mother. I am happy to be able to state that the children accompanied her. Peace, quietness and felicity reign in my dwelling. I come and go unquestioned. I stay out late at night without fear of rebuke. I lie abed of mornings, and no one insists on my getting up. My friends pass the evening with me, and there are none who tell me the next day that the window curtains are filled with tobacco smoke, and the parlor has the fragrance of a bar room. If two or three friends come home to dine with me, the cook never asks me why I brought them, nor complains of a headache. What is more, she does not insist upon having a new silk dress every week, nor burst into tears if I utter crude and naughty words. The fact is, if there be one thing I like more than another, it is to have my wife visit her mother."

C. H. F. Peters, director of the observatory at Hamilton College, Clinton, N. Y., has discovered a new asteroid. It is of the tenth magnitude.